

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for automated management and standardization of non-public ~~performance information~~financial statement information associated with at least one business comprising:

receiving ~~at a network-based data processing system~~ a trial balance report~~financial~~ statement information from a contributing business as an electronic data file, the ~~trial balance~~financial statement information containing performance information associated with the contributing business; the ~~performance information and~~ originating from a financial accounting system used by the contributing business to maintain its general ledger accounting records;

storing the ~~trial balance report~~financial statement information as electronic data on ~~a-~~the data processing system, the ~~performance information in the trial balance report~~financial statement information having a first format based on a first set of performance classifications;

converting, using an automated process executing on the data processing system, the ~~performance information in the trial balance report~~financial statement information from the first format to a second standardized format based at least in part on a conversion map associated with the contributing business, the conversion map defining a correspondence between one or more performance classifications of the first set of performance classifications and one or more respective performance classifications of a second set of standardized performance classifications;

aggregating the converted ~~performance~~financial statement information with ~~performance~~ financial statement information associated with at least one other business, thereby creating a standardized database of standardized private company performancefinancial statement information;

analyzing the converted performance financial information associated with the contributing business based at least in part on one or more performance metrics with an automated program executing on the data processing system;

automatically generating at least one electronic report based on results of the analyzing;

and

automatically providing at least a portion of the at least one electronic report to at least one requesting party.

2. Cancelled.

3. (Currently Amended) The method as in Claim 1, wherein the at least one electronic report includes at least one alert indicator to identify at least one performance metric of the converted performance financial statement information having a variance from a corresponding predetermined value specified by the at least one recipient that exceeds an adjustable threshold associated with the at least one performance metric.

4. (Original) The method as in Claim 3, wherein the predetermined value includes a value of the performance metric from a previous period.

5. (Previously Presented) The method as in Claim 3, wherein the predetermined value includes a target value for the at least one performance metric.

6. (Original) The method as in Claim 3, wherein the predetermined value includes a value representative of an industry average for the at least one performance metric.

7. (Currently Amended) The method as in Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

receiving at the data processing system a trial balance financial statement information
from a second contributing business as an electronic data file, the trial balance financial statement
information containing performance information associated with a second contributing business

taken from a financial accounting system used by the second contributing business to maintain its general ledger accounting records, the performance financial statement information having a third format based on a third set of performance classifications;

converting, using an automated process, the performance financial statement information associated with the second business from the third format to the second format based at least in part on a conversion map defining a correspondence between one or more performance classifications of the third set of performance classifications and one or more respective performance classifications of the second set of performance classifications;

aggregating the converted performance financial statement information associated with the second contributing business with the other aggregated performance financial statement information; and

analyzing the converted performance financial statement information associated with the second business based at least in part on one or more performance metrics.

8. (Currently Amended) The method as in Claim 7, further comprising:

generating at least one electronic report based on results of the analysis of the converted performance financial statement information associated with the second business.

9. (Currently Amended) The method as in Claim 7, further comprising:

analyzing at least one performance metric of at least one of the first and second businesses based on one or more representative performance metrics from the aggregated converted performance financial statement information.

10. (Currently Amended) The method as in Claim 1, wherein obtaining receiving the trial balance financial statement information includes receiving the performance information as one or more data files uploaded by an agent of the contributing business via a website.

11. Cancelled.
12. (Currently Amended) The method as in Claim 1, wherein the at least one electronic report is received ~~from~~for the contributing business via a website.
13. (Currently Amended) The method as in Claim 1, wherein the conversion of the performance-financial statement information from the first format to the second format is performed at least in part using one or more software programs.
14. Cancelled.
15. (Currently Amended) The method as in Claim 1, wherein the contributing business is one of a group consisting of: a private business; ~~a public business;~~ a non-profit organization; and a government agency.
16. (Currently Amended) The method as in Claim 1, further comprising:
providing at least one alert to the at least one requesting party, the alert identifying at least one performance metric of the converted performance-financial statement information having a variance from a corresponding predetermined value that exceeds an adjustable threshold associated with the at least one performance metric set by the requesting party.
17. (Original) The method as in Claim 16, wherein the predetermined value includes a value of the performance metric from a previous period.
18. (Original) The method as in Claim 16, wherein the predetermined value includes a target value set for the at least one performance metric.
19. (Original) The method as in Claim 16, wherein the predetermined value includes a value representative of an industry average for the at least one performance metric.
20. (Original) The method as in Claim 16, wherein the alert is delivered via at least one of a group comprising: an email; a facsimile; a voice message; and a text message.

21. (Currently Amended) The method as in Claim 1, further comprising:
delivering at least a portion of the converted ~~performance financial statement~~ information to a requesting party as one or more data files having a format compatible with software operated by the at least one requesting party.

22. (Currently Amended) The method as in Claim 1, wherein ~~the performance information includes financial information and where~~ one or more of the performance classifications of the first set of performance classifications includes a financial account and one or more of the performance classifications of the second set includes a financial account correlated to a financial account of the first set.

23. (Currently Amended) The method as in Claim 1, ~~wherein the performance information includes~~further comprising receiving operational information and where one or more of the performance classifications of the first set of performance classifications includes an operational classification and one or more of the performance classifications of the second set includes an operational classification correlated to a operational classification of the first set.

24. (Currently Amended) A method for automated management of ~~performance financial statement~~ information associated with at least one non-public business, the method comprising:
receiving a ~~trial balance report~~financial statement information at a remote data processing system as an electronic data filed uploaded by an agent of a submitting business via a graphical user interface (GUI), the ~~trial balance report~~financial statement containing ~~performance information associated with the -submitting business, the performance information and originating from an accounting system used by the submitting business to maintain its general ledger~~ accounting records and including financial performance information associated with the

~~submitting business, the performance information in the trial balance report financial statement~~

information having a first format based on a first set of performance classifications;

automatically selecting at least one automated software program for the performance financial statement information associated with the ~~submitting~~ business with the data processing system;

converting, using ~~the~~ at least one automated software program executing on the data processing system, the performance information in the trial balance report financial statement information from the first format to a second standardized format based at least in part on a mapping between one or more performance classifications of the first set of performance classifications and one or more corresponding performance classifications of a second set of performance classifications;

aggregating the converted performance financial statement information with performance financial statement information associated with at least one other business, thereby creating a standardized database of private company performance financial statement information;

analyzing, using at least one automated software program executing on the data server processing system, the converted performance financial statement information based at least in part on one or more performance metrics;

automatically creating at least one performance report based on results of the analysis of the converted performance financial statement information with the data server; and

providing the at least one performance report to at least one requesting party via the GUI.

25. (Currently Amended) The method as in Claim 24, wherein the GUI includes one or more web pages of a website and the data processing system includes at least one web server associated with the website.

26. Cancelled.
27. (Currently Amended) The method as in Claim 24, wherein the submitting business is one of a group consisting of: a private business; a public business; a non-profit organization; and a government agency.
28. (Currently Amended) The method as in Claim 24, further comprising:
providing at least one alert to the at least one requesting party via the website, the alert identifying at least one performance metric of the converted ~~performance-financial statement~~ information having a variance from a corresponding predetermined value that exceeds an adjustable threshold associated with the at least one performance metric set by the requesting party.
29. (Original) The method as in Claim 28, wherein the alert is delivered from the website via at least one of a group comprising: an email; a facsimile; a voice message; and a text message.
30. (Currently Amended) The method as in Claim 25, further comprising:
delivering at least a portion of the converted ~~performance-financial statement~~ information to at least one requesting party via the website as one or more data files having a format compatible with software operated by the requesting party.
31. (Currently Amended) The method as in Claim 24, wherein the ~~performance information includes financial information and where~~ one or more of the performance classifications of the first set of performance classifications includes a financial account and one or more of the performance classifications of the second set includes a financial account correlated to a financial account of the first set.
32. (Currently Amended) The method as in Claim 24, ~~wherein the performance information includes further comprising receiving operational information and where~~ one or more of the

performance classifications of the first set of performance classifications includes an operational classification and one or more of the performance classifications of the second set includes an operational classification correlated to a operational classification of the first set.

33. (Currently Amended) A network-based performance information management system for automated management of ~~performance~~-financial statement information associated with at least one non-public business, the system comprising:

a performance information receipt module that receives performance information uploads from a submitting business in the form of an electronic data file containing financial statement a ~~trial balance report~~ taken from the submitting business's general ledger accounting system, the financial statement~~performance~~ information having a first format based on a first set of performance classifications;

a mapping module, including a map database, that converts the financial ~~statement~~~~performance~~ information from the first format to a second standardized format based at least in part on a mapping between one or more performance classifications of the first set of performance classifications and one or more performance classifications of a second set of performance classifications, the mapping maintained in the map database;

a database module for storing the converted information with information associated with at least one submitting business with other aggregated financial statement~~performance~~ information associated with other businesses thereby creating a standardized database of private company financial statement~~performance~~ information;

an analysis module for analyzing the converted financial statement~~performance~~ information based at least in part on one or more performance metrics; and

a performance report/alert generation module for generating at least one performance report based on results of the analysis module, the performance report/alert generation module providing the at least one performance report to at least one requesting party.

34. Cancelled.

35. (Previously Presented) The system as in Claim 33, wherein the at least one performance report includes at least one alert indicator to identify at least one performance metric of the converted performance information having a variance from a corresponding predetermined value that exceeds an adjustable threshold associated with the performance metric.

36. (Previously Presented) The system as in Claim 35, wherein the predetermined value includes a value of the performance metric from a previous period.

37. (Previously Presented) The system as in Claim 35, wherein the predetermined value includes a target value set for the performance metric.

38. (Previously Presented) The system as in Claim 35, wherein the predetermined value includes a value representative of an industry average for the performance metric.

39. (Currently Amended) The system as in Claim 33, further comprising:
the performance information receipt module receiving a ~~trial balance report~~ financial statement ~~containing performance~~-information associated with a second submitting business, the ~~performance~~ financial statement information having a third format based on a third set of performance classifications;

the mapping module converting the ~~performance~~ financial statement information associated with the second submitting business from the third format to the second format based at least in part on a conversion map defining a correspondence between one or more performance

classifications of the third set of performance classifications and one or more respective performance classifications of the second set of performance classifications;

the database module aggregating the converted financial statementperformance information associated with the second submitting business with the other aggregated financial statementperformance information; and

the analysis module analyzing the converted financial statementperformance information associated with the second submitting business.

40. (Currently Amended) The system as in Claim 39, the performance report/alert generation module generating one or more performance reports based on results the analysis of the converted financial statementperformance information associated with the second submitting business.

41. (Currently Amended) The system as in Claim 39, the database module aggregating the converted financial statementperformance information associated with the submitting businsses; and

the analysis module analyzing a performance of at least one of the submitting businesses based on one or more representative performance metrics from the aggregated converted financial statementperformance information.

42. (Currently Amended) The system as in Claim 33, wherein the performance report/alert generation module includes a website adapted to receive the financial statementperformance information as one or more uploaded data files.

43. Cancelled.

44. (Currently Amended) The system as in Claim 33, wherein the performance report/alert generation module includes a website adapted to provide the one or more performance reports as one or more web pages.

45. Cancelled.

46. (Currently Amended) The system as in Claim 33, wherein the submitting business is one of a group consisting of: a private business; a public business; a non-profit organization; and a government agency.

47. (Currently Amended) The system as in Claim 33, the performance report/alert generation module further providing at least one alert to at least one requesting party, the alert identifying at least one performance metric of the converted financial statement performance information having a variance from a corresponding predetermined value that exceeds an adjustable threshold associated with the at least one performance metric that is set by the requesting party.

48. (Original) The system as in Claim 47, wherein the predetermined value includes a value of the performance metric from a previous period.

49. (Original) The system as in Claim 47, wherein the predetermined value includes a target value set for the at least one performance metric.

50. (Original) The system as in Claim 47, wherein the predetermined value includes a value representative of an industry average for the at least one performance metric.

51. (Original) The system as in Claim 47, wherein the alert is delivered via at least one of a group comprising: an email; a facsimile; a voice message; and a text message.

52. (Currently Amended) The system as in Claim 33, the performance report/alert generation module delivering at least a portion of the converted financial statement performance information

to the at least one requesting party as one or more data files having a format compatible with software operated by the requesting party.

53. (Currently Amended) The system as in Claim 33, wherein the financial statement performance information includes financial information and where one or more of the performance classifications of the first set of performance classifications includes a financial account and one or more of the performance classifications of the second set includes a financial account correlated to a financial account of the first set.

54. (Currently Amended) The system as in Claim 33, wherein the performance information further includes operational information and where one or more of the performance classifications of the first set of performance classifications includes an operational classification and one or more of the performance classifications of the second set includes an operational classification correlated to a operational classification of the first set.

55. (Currently Amended) A system for automated management of non-public financial statement performance information associated with at least one business, the system comprising:

one or more networked servers adapted to:

operate a website having one or more web pages;

receive financial statement information—trial balance report, as an electronic data file uploaded via one or more web pages of the website, from a submitting business containing financial statement performance information associated with the submitting business and including financial performance information of that business originating from a general ledger accounting system used by the business to maintain its accounting records, the performance financial statement information having a first format based on a first set of performance classifications;

convert the performance-financial statement information from the first format to a second standardized format based at least in part on a conversion map that maps a correlation between one or more performance classifications of the first set of performance classifications and one or more respective performance classifications of the second set of performance classifications;

aggregate the converted performance-financial statement information with performance-financial statement information associated with at least one other business to create a standardized-database of standardized private company performance information;

analyze the converted performance information based at least in part on one or more performance metrics; and

provide one or more performance reports of results of the analysis of the converted performance information for display to at least one requesting party.

56. Cancelled.

57. (Currently Amended) The system as in Claim 55, wherein the one or more networked servers are further adapted to:

receive financial statement information a trial balance report containing performance information associated with a second submitting business as an electronic data file uploaded via one or more web pages of the website, the financial statementperformance information associated with the second submitting business having a third format based on a third set of performance classifications;

convert the financial statementperformance information associated with the second business from the third format to the second format based at least in part on a conversion map that maps a correlation between one or more performance classifications of the third set of

performance classifications and one or more respective performance classifications of the second set of performance classifications;

aggregate the converted financial statement~~performance~~ information associated with the second submitting business with the other aggregated financial statement~~performance~~ information;

analyze the converted financial statement~~performance~~ information associated with the second submitting business based at least in part on one or more performance metrics; and

provide for the display of one or more performance reports of results of the analysis of the converted financial statement~~performance~~ information associated with the second submitting business via the one or more web pages of the website for the second submitting business.

58. (Currently Amended) The system as in Claim 55, wherein the submitting business is one of a group consisting of: a private business; a ~~public business~~; a non-profit organization; and a government agency.

59. (Currently Amended) The system as in Claim 55, wherein the one or more networked servers are further adapted to:

provide a least one alert to at least one requesting party via the website, the alert identifying at least one performance metric of the converted financial statement~~performance~~ information having a variance from a corresponding predetermined value that exceeds an adjustable threshold associated with the at least one performance metric that is set by the requesting party.

60. (Original) The system as in Claim 59, wherein the alert is delivered from the website via at least one of a group comprising: an email; a facsimile; a voice message; and a text message.

61. (Currently Amended) The method as in Claim 55, wherein the one or more networked servers are further adapted to:

deliver at least a portion of the converted financial statement~~performance~~ information to a requesting party via the website as one or more data files having a format compatible with software operated by the requesting party.

62. (Currently Amended) The system as in Claim 55, wherein ~~the performance information includes financial information and where~~ one or more of the performance classifications of the first set of performance classifications includes a financial account and one or more of the performance classifications of the second set includes a financial account correlated to a financial account of the first set.

63. (Currently Amended) The system as in Claim 55, wherein the financial statement~~performance~~ information further includes operational information and where one or more of the performance classifications of the first set of performance classifications includes an operational classification and one or more of the performance classifications of the second set includes an operational classification correlated to a operational classification of the first set.

64.-99. Cancelled.

100. (Currently Amended) A method for automated management of private company financial statement~~performance~~ information comprising:

receiving at a network-based data processing system financial statement information a ~~trial balance~~ as an electronic data file upload, the financial statement information ~~trial balance~~ containing ~~performance~~ financial statement information associated with a private business, the financial statement information ~~trial balance~~ comprising data taken from that business' general ledger accounting system and having a user-defined format based on a first set of performance

classifications corresponding to a set of financial accounts, including, but not limited to <Loren can we put something here?>

converting, using an automated process executing on a-the data processing system, the received financial statementperformance information contained in the trial balance from the user-defined format to a standardized format based at least in part on a mapping process that correlates one or more one or more performance classifications of the first set of performance classifications and one or more respective performance classifications of a second set of standardized performance classifications;

aggregating the converted financial statementperformance information with performance financial statement information associated with at least one other business thereby creating a standardized database of standardized private company financial statementperformance information;

automatically analyzing the converted financial statementperformance information based at least in part on one or more performance metrics with the data processing system; and

generating at least one electronic report based on the analyzing, wherein generating a report comprises generating a web page-based analysis dashboard for visualizing results of the analyzing, the dashboard detailing at least one historical trend for one or more performance metrics associated with the business for the private business.

101. (Currently Amended) A network-based business performance information management system comprising:

a computer system accessible on a computer network and adapted to:

electronically receive at least one business performance information file from at least one submitting business, the business performance information file containing financial

statement information from the submitting business's general ledger accounting system, the financial statement information in first format specified by that business based on a first set of performance classifications corresponding to a set of financial accounts;

convert the information in the at least one business performance information file into a standardized format using a mapping process based on a conversion map that maps one or more performance classifications of the first set of performance classifications and a second set of standardized performance classifications;

aggregate the information with converted business performance information of at least one other submitting business thereby creating a standardized database of private company performance information;

analyze the converted performance information based at least in part on one or more performance metrics; and

generate an alert if results of analyzing indicates that at least one performance metric of the converted performance information varies from a corresponding predetermined value by more than an adjustable threshold set by a recipient of the alert.

102. (Currently Amended) A method for gathering private company business performance information comprising:

electronically receiving a file containing financial statement trial balance information at a remote computer system over the Internet, the financial statement trial balance information in a first format based on a first set of performance classifications corresponding to a set of financial accounts, the financial statement trial balance information associated with a submitting business and taken from that submitting business's general ledger accounting system;

converting the data in the file from the first format to a second standardized format using an automated conversion mapping process that correlates one or more one or more performance classifications of the first set of performance classifications and one or more respective performance classifications of a second set of standardized performance classifications;

aggregating the converted data in a database with converted financial statement data information of other private companies thereby creating a standardized database of private company financial statementperformance information; and

analyzing the converted financial statementperformance information based at least in part on one or more performance metrics;

generating at least one report based on the results of analyzing for the submitting business; and

providing the at least one report to at least one requesting party upon request.